

## **Bridgetown Area Chamber of Commerce General Meeting April 21, 2016**

Attendance: Steve Clayton, Gerry Bezanson, Gary Olsvik, Kirk Lycett, Jen D'Aubin, Tim Habinski, Mike Gushue, Anne Crossman, Caroline Perriman, Guest Albert Dumphy, Director Community Service, Annapolis County

Meeting called to order at 8:05 am by chair Jen D'Aubin.

Minutes from previous meeting were read and approved, motion by Kirk, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Caroline.

### **Business Arising:**

Jen sent a letter of support to the Friends of the Library. An engineer has been to check the building. The library is moving forward with plans for the space previously occupied by the Eggplant Café. The CEO of the library will be making a presentation in the near future.

Jennifer advised a brainstorming meeting was held on March 3, 2016 regarding the revitalization of the downtown, a summary is attached to the minutes. Information has been sent to CAO John Ferguson. A proposed logo is "Our History, Your Future".

Tim suggested prioritizing the list to present to Council, such as repairing the light post on the bridge, as county requires notice for repairs, etc. to have workers in place to complete these.

### **Reports:**

Financial report presented by Gary Olsvik, closing balance at March 31, 2016 was \$14,422.72.

**Ciderfest:** The committee meets every three weeks. There have been a number of adjustments to the festival, including decreasing it to three days. A community event will be held on Saturday during the festival which will present the Lumberjack History including axe throwing, sawing, and many other activities.

All events will be held outdoors during Ciderfest (weather permitting). There will be no parade but the committee will attempt to run a children's parade through Jubilee Park.

### **New Business;**

Jen has been meeting with Karen Enright, Digby BOT, William MacDonald, Annapolis BOT, and Larry Knox, Bear River BOT regarding the Annapolis Basin Business Expo to be held at the Cornwallis Conference Center in October 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>, 2016. Saturday 10Am to 4PM and Sunday 1Pm to 4Pm.

Two rooms will be set up for businesses, there will be food vendors, and workshops being held each hour including cider making, sausage making, upholstery, etc.

The goal is to promote local business and chamber members are free to attend, non-members will be \$150. Advertisements will be in the Herald, local papers and social media. Merchants can sell their wares at the expo and Annapolis Ventures will give a presentation on financing for small business, etc. The Center for Local prosperity may also be available for a presentation.

**Anne moved that the BACC and the Boards of Trade pursue the business expo in October, contingent on financial backing being available. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Gary, m/c.  
Nancy Chisholm will complete the grant applications.**

**Topic for next meeting to be held on May 5, 2016 was discussed. Kirk suggested asking Mike Parker, East Coast Aquatics, also George D'entremont, CAO Mtn Lea Lodge, or Angela from Maritime Travel.**

**Albert Dumphy presented a sign-up sheet for the naming of the street to the new school.**

**The commercial float is now owned by the BACC. Mike moved that the Chamber proceed with using the float in events throughout the Valley, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Anne, m/c.**

**Moved by Mike and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Anne for the BACC to provide a letter of support to the Arena for upgrades, m/c.**

**Executive will meet on April 25, 2016 to discuss date for the AGM.**

**Motion for adjournment at 9:15 am.**

**Next meeting May 19, 2016.**